

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2773

January 27, 2010

SUMMARY OF BILL: Defines a dangerous animal as a domesticated animal that, without provocation, bites, attacks, or endangers the safety of a human or other animal on public or private property, is capable of causing serious bodily injury or death or any domesticated animal which behaves in such a manner that the owner knows or should reasonably know the animal possesses tendencies to attack humans or other animals. Defines a vicious animal as any domesticated animal that without provocation attacks a human or other animal on property, public or private, and causes serious bodily injury or aggressively bites attacks or endangers the safety of humans or other animals without provocation. Defines a wild animal as any animal of an untamable disposition taken from a state of nature and possess by a human and placed into captivity constituting a danger to humans or other animals.

Creates a Class A misdemeanor for any convicted felon, probationer, or parolee convicted of a felony or misdemeanor offense to own, harbor, keep or to be in the company of or share a residence with a dangerous, vicious or wild animal. Permits a person's reasonable excuse for owning, possessing, having custody of or control of the animal as a defense to prosecution.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Revenue - Not Significant
Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant**

**Increase Local Revenue – Not Significant
Increase Local Expenditures – Not Significant**

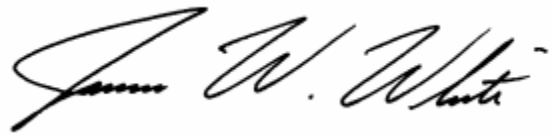
Assumptions:

- The Board of Probation and Parole does not currently have policies related to offenders and dangerous, vicious or wild animals.
- According to the Board of Probation and Parole, development of procedures to meet the enforcement requirements of this bill could be developed with minimal impact to agency operations.
- Board of Probation and Parole will not enforce or patrol for violations other than obvious and observable infractions during parolee or probationer visits.

- A small increase in cases in the court system, which will result in additional state and local government expenditures for processing the cases and additional state and local government revenue from fees, taxes and costs collected. These expenditures and revenue are estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "W".

James W. White, Executive Director

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